

**ABSTRACT**

5 The present invention relates to an aqueous primer composition for use in manufacturing flexographic printing plates. The aqueous primer composition comprises a polyurethane, a copolymer, a layered silicate, and optionally a surfactant and/or a dye or pigment. The use of the layered silicate as a filler in the primer composition produces an improved primer composition with a stronger water/solvent resistance and less delamination.